

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-30 are pending. Claims 1-30 have been rejected. Claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 14-16, and 18-30 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The specification was objected to because of a typographical error in the Abstract. The Abstract has been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 was objected to because of an informality. Claim 4 has been appropriately amended. Claims 14 and 24 have been similarly amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 8-11, 15, 18-21, 25, 29, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite because of the use of parentheses and the phrase "e.g." in the claims. The claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 5, 8-11, 15, 18-21, 25, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Peng, U.S. Patent No. 6,317,754. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 is directed to synchronizing instances for a data platform, and includes the feature of maintaining a vector for each instance. As claimed, the vector represents all changes that have been made to the instance, by comprising a most recent change number for the instance, and a most recent known change number for each of the other instances that are known to the instance. The prior art fails to disclose or suggest such features.

Peng is directed to the synchronization of servers and uses a summarizing version vector having fields that summarize the state of an object container at a server. A summarizing version vector is a vector of update stamps, with each update stamp having a field for an object container's identifier and time stamp (column 3, lines 15-20, and 40-45). As further described with respect to Figure 4, the summarizing version vector contains the

identifiers and the time stamps for all of the objects in all of the object containers in the system (column 9, line 65 – column 10, line 13). The summarizing version vector is thus a summary of the version vectors for all the objects in an object container (column 15, lines 63-66). Therefore, the summarizing version vector does not represent all the changes that have been made to an object, but represents all the changes that have been made to an object container, where the object container contains multiple objects.

Although the version vector of an object reflects the current state of an object (column 15, line 66 – column 16, line 10), it is not based on a most recent change number for the object, and a most recent known change number for each of the other objects that are known to the object.

Independent claims 11 and 21 recite similar features. Based on the foregoing, claims 1, 11, and 21 should not be rejected as being anticipated by Peng. Thus, claims 1, 11, and 21, along with their dependent claims, are patentable for the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-8, 11-18, and 21-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), is respectfully requested.

Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peng in view of Sasaki (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0267834). It is respectfully submitted that claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 are allowable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

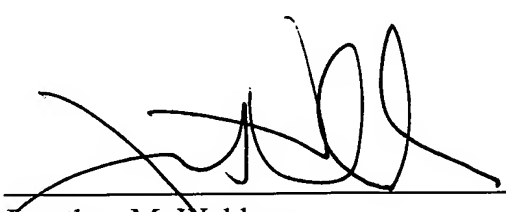
Claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 are variously dependent from independent claims 1, 11, and 21, and are therefore patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to these claims. Sasaki fails to cure the deficiencies of Peng. Sasaki describes data synchronization between a server and a mobile device using a recursive search to identify objects related to a particular object. However, Sasaki fails to teach or a vector that represents all changes that have been made to an instance, by comprising a most recent change number for the instance, and a most recent known change number for each of the other instances that are known to the instance, as claimed. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 9, 10, 19, 20, 29, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

**DOCKET NO.:** MSFT-2845/306724.01  
**Application No.:** 10/692,508  
**Office Action Dated:** June 1, 2006

**PATENT**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Date: August 31, 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan M. Waldman  
Registration No. 40,861

Woodcock Washburn LLP  
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor  
Philadelphia PA 19103  
Telephone: (215) 568-3100  
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439